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Vol [2]

SIPS BITS

STATE INFORMATION PROCESSING SERVICES EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

SIPS — RANKED #1

By Charlie Williams

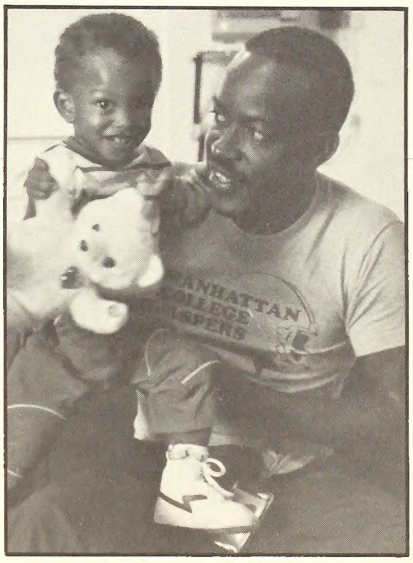
Have you ever wanted to be part of an NCAA championship team? Relatively speaking, you are. In August, SIPS was awarded an outstanding performance award by the National Association for State Information Systems, Inc., (NASIS).

NASIS is an organization made up of members from all fifty states and the District of Columbia. The central purpose of NASIS is to assist state governments in providing effective service to their citizens, and in making the best possible use of their information systems resources.

Just as a national championship sport team requires extremely talented and dedicated personnel, so does a national information processing championship team. Individuals do not win team championships. Each team member makes their best contribution to the total team effort.

As head coach of the SIPS team, I want to again thank you for your outstanding contribution to the SIPS team effort. I have known all along that our team is of national championship calibre. Now, people in all fifty states know that as well. Congratulations and thanks again! □

NASIS Award



A HELPING HAND - Two-year-old Lonnie Holden III is happy and healthy following kidney surgery and chemotherapy treatment. SIPS employees contributed $265 to help out the family with medical bills. Doctors now expect the child to fully recover. Proud father **Lonnie Holden** is a Computer Operations Manager in the State Computer Center. He is very appreciative and thankful for the support and concern shown by his friends and co-workers at SIPS.

N. C. DOCUMENTS

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RALEIGH

HIGH FIVE - This little charmer is **Jazzmin Delandra**, the year old daughter of **Angela High** and her husband Charles. Jazzmin is the couple's first child. Angela, a Computer Operator in the State Computer Center, says Jazzmin is going to be a singer like her mother.

BOWTIE: A SUCCESSFUL RIDE

By Richard Sugg

I am proud to have been a part of BOWTIE '87 this past October. BOWTIE is an annual fall bicycle riding event to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Riders from North Carolina are supported by pledges from friends, neighbors, and co-workers for the 25-100 mile ride through the Triangle area.

I persevered! I had to ride all 100 miles, in view of the stern challenges from several of my sponsors, most of whom are right here at SIPS. I'm grateful for the continuing support - financial and moral - each time I attempt this 100-mile feat. This year we had 37 riders, a few less than last year, and pledges of $2,363, a little more than last year.

We came away with a good feeling that BOWTIE, too, will persevere, and become more successful. If we all keep trying, maybe we can soon make a big difference for the victims of cystic fibrosis.

[Editor's Note: Richard Sugg is a Systems Analyst in State Systems Development. For the past seven years, Richard has combined his love of cycling and people as a volunteer to help victims of cystic fibrosis. His normal weekly training often averages over 100 miles of riding.] □

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Fred W. Talton
State Controller

Charlie Williams
Chief of SIPS

Chuck McLendon
Editor

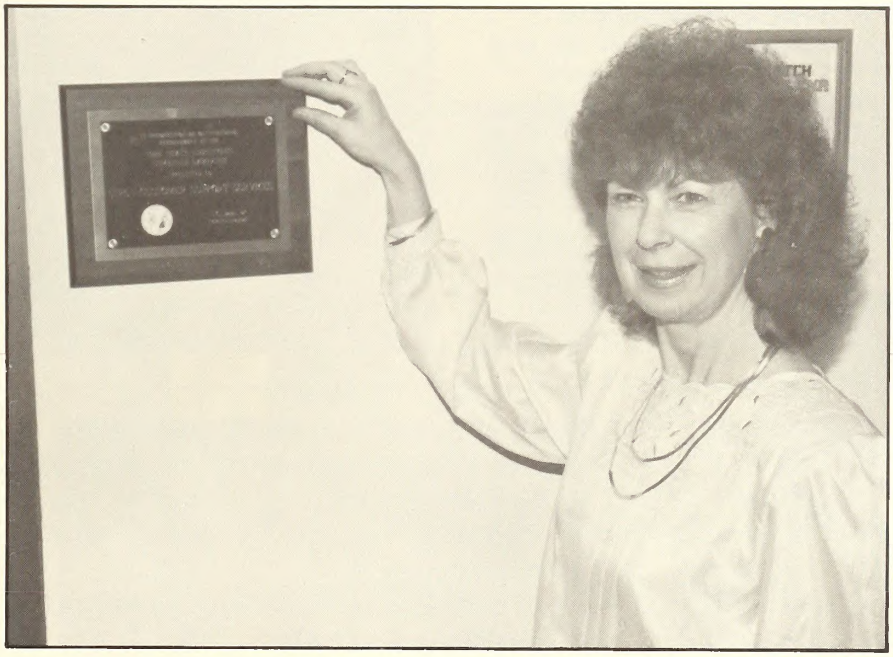
(Photo by Wanda Daughtry)

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS - Director Fred Taggart leads the 32-member SIPS choir in a selection of carols at the December 23rd Christmas party. Many employees sang along and gave the choir a well-deserved standing ovation. In addition, **Charlie Williams** wished everyone a happy holiday, and **Sam Rule** gave a devotional on the meaning of Christmas. The party also included a huge smorgasbord of delicious holiday treats.

TRICK OR TREAT

Ghouls and goblins were out in force as SIPS employees celebrated Halloween on October 30. Joining in the party fun were left to right: **Cathy Rodden, Barbara Watkins, Ann Claire Roberson and Nancy Sathern Locklin.**

BABY FACE - Six-month-old Monica Ann Autry poses for her proud parents **Earl and Carolyn Autry, Jr.** Monica Ann was born on October 2nd at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh, and weighed in at a healthy 8 pounds, 1 ounce. Her father is a Computer Operator, while her grandfather **Earl Autry, Sr.**, is a Systems Programmer in the State Computer Center.



SECC AWARD PRESENTED - **Brenda Stovall** displays the award received by SIPS' Client Support Services in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the 1987 State Employees Combined Campaign. Brenda, who represented the section as Agency Coordinator, was presented the award in December by DOA Secretary Jim Lofton.

CLARK HEADS PULSE

Dale Clark was elected President of PULSE at a conference in October. He will serve in the position through September, 1988.

Dale Clark

PULSE (PANSOPHIC USER LEARNING AND SHARING EXPERIENCE) consists of thirty government and private industry organizations that use PANSOPHIC computation in conjunction with GENER/OL and EASYTRIEVE-PLUS software packages. PULSE is designed to recommend improvements in the PANSOPHIC product line, and to share information and education.

Dale is a Team Supervisor in DMV/DOT Systems Development, and is a past Chairman of District 29 of the State Employees Association of North Carolina. □

TELEPHONE TIPS FOR PROPER DIALING

SIPS Chief Charlie Williams would like to remind all employees about the importance of properly using the telephone. Correct dialing is not only state policy, but it also saves money.

Williams emphasizes that long distance calls are allowed only for official state business, and that personal long distance calls should not be charged to the state. In addition, some employees are improperly dialing toll-free numbers which results in SIPS being billed for these "free" calls.

Here are the proper techniques for making outgoing calls:

- for state government numbers ("733" prefixes), dial "9" "3" and then the last four digits of the number.
- for long distance calls, dial "9" "8", the area code, and then the 7-digit telephone number. The "9" "8" sequence is to be used only for official government business.
- for toll-free calls, dial "9" "9" "1-800", and then the 7-digit telephone number.

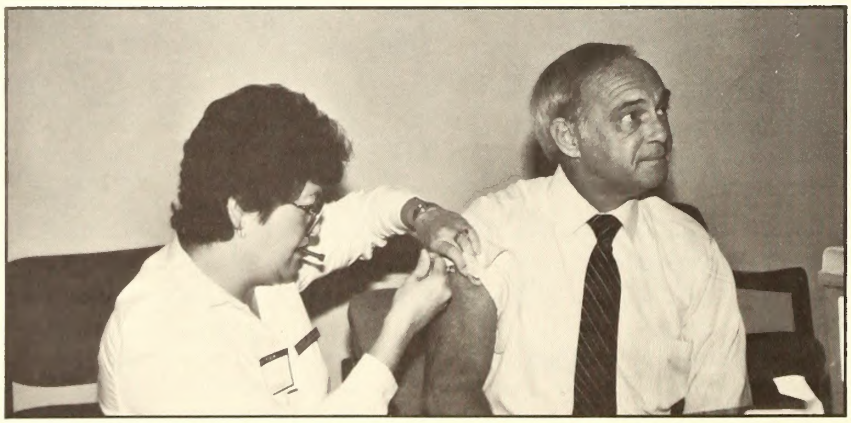
If it is necessary to make a personal long distance call, dial "9" "9" to get an outside dial tone, but remember that personal long distance calls may not be billed to SIPS or to the state.

For calls within the SIPS building, simply dial the local three digit extension of the party being called. The PM system has a list of local extension numbers for all employees.

All incoming telephone calls are received at the central SIPS switchboard. The switchboard operator will ring the requested party. However, if that individual is not at his or her workstation, a telephone message will be entered into the PM system. Operators will not deliver messages personally.

All SIPS employees can receive personal telephone training, as well as written instructions on the proper use of the telephone system by calling the State Telecommunications Office at Extension 215. All requests for telephone service or equipment needs should be made in writing. Emergency requests, such as instruments or lines which are not operating properly, should be made by calling the Telecommunications Office.

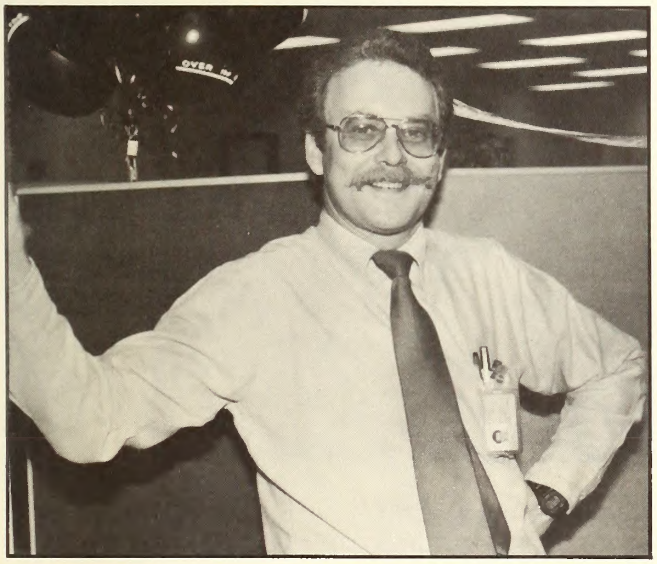
A summary of proper telephone procedures is contained in the SIPS Employee Information Handbook. □



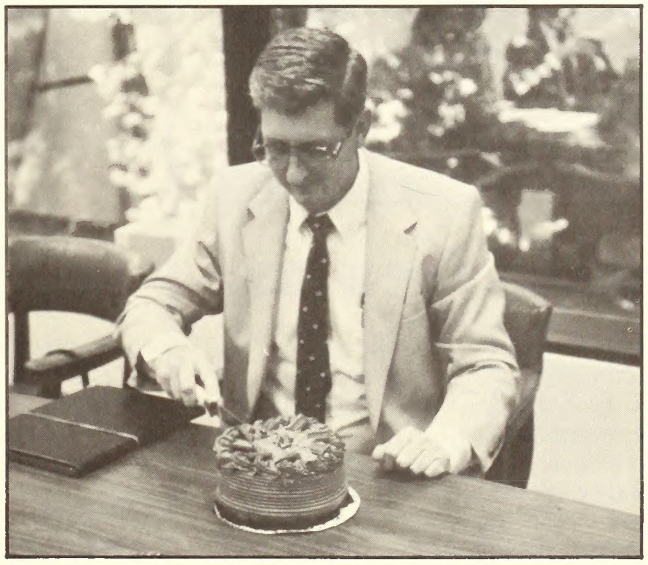
BEATING THE BUG - Nurse Carole Warren of the Wake County Health Department sticks it to **Fred Allen**, one of 30 SIPS' employees who took advantage of free flu shots this past winter. The influenza vaccine helps people fight off the annual invasion of flu. Fred is a Systems Analyst with State Systems Development.

LORDY, LORDY, DOTTIE'S FORTY - Dottie Ellis enjoys her gaily decorated office at a surprise birthday party given for her on October 23rd by her friends and co-workers. Dottie is a Team Supervisor in DMV/DOT Systems Development.

THE BIG FOUR-OH! - William Bowling (center) celebrates that special birthday on September 14th with a little help from his friends Butch Arnold (left) and Buck Adams. Williams says he still feels 18! It must be nice. William is a programmer in DMV Systems Development.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY - Tony Bridgers joined the over-the-hill gang when he celebrated his fortieth birthday on November 5. Tony, a Systems Analyst in DOT, said having a five-year-old son helps keep him young.



BIRTHDAY BOY - Don Schmidt cuts the cake celebrating his 44th birthday on September 19th. Don, a Data Processing Consultant in Client Support Services, joins the select group of us who are getting better instead of older.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How Dry I Am....

Many times, comments have been overheard about having something done to the upstairs entrance into the building so that during inclement weather, one would not "drown" trying to get an umbrella closed and getting into the building.

One suggestion was double doors. While that would help keep a blast of cold air from coming into the building, it would not solve the problem of getting wet closing an umbrella.

What would be the possibility of purchasing a small awning such as the one on the McDowell Street entrance of the Caswell Building?

Joyce Martin

Dear Joyce:

The SIPS' management team agreed with the need you expressed in your letter and responded to this valid employee concern.

On March 4, 1988, Custom Canvas Workers of Raleigh installed a 9' x 10' burgundy awning over the main entrance to SIPS.

Editor

RIDING THE RAILS

Norfolk Southern Railway is recapturing the nostalgia of the old-fashioned steam engine and passenger train.

Norfolk Southern is sponsoring all day excursions aboard 1940-type steam engines as well as modern diesels. There will be several trips this summer including a diesel trip from Raleigh to Spencer. Ticket prices range from $40 to $60.

For more information contact **Doug Deaton** at extension 159. □

BIRTHDAY WITH 'THE BOSS' - Sandy Sasser found a unique way to celebrate her birthday on March 5th. Sandy was one of the lucky fans attending the Bruce Springsteen tour at the sold-out Dean Smith Center in Chapel Hill. Here she models a souvenir T-shirt of the memorable concert which she called incredible and exciting. Sandy is a Secretary in State Systems Development.

SUPER CRUISER - Kit Brown shows off his best 'man of steel' dance moves during a floating costume ball on a January cruise to the Caribbean. His partner is Clara Williams, one of the square dancers from the Triangle area, who sailed to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Kit is President of the Single Twirlers Square Dancing Club of Raleigh, and a Programmer/Analyst in State Systems Development.

SIPS EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR STATE SERVICE

SIPS was well represented at the annual service awards day in February. The following employees were honored by DOA for their service to North Carolina state government.

5 Year Service Awards -
Rachel Eagles, Judith Everman, and **Wayne Perry.**

10 Year Service Awards -
Cathy Connor, John Gribble, James Myers, Joan Mize, James Thomas, and **Rebecca Westmoreland.**

15 Year Service Awards -
Greta Fisher, Robert Lewis, Anne Lynch, and **Debra Unwin.**

20 Year Service Awards -
Charles Creech, Edward Glover, Henry Murray, Joanne Regan, William Rollins, Don Schmidt, Ralph Thompson, and **Mary Tyndall.**

25 Year Service Awards -
Sue Dickens, Fred Hagwood, and **Ellen Hall.**

PRIZE WINNING PRESERVES

Theresa Lentz' homemade jellies and preserves won rave reviews at the 1987 State Fair in Raleigh last October.

Theresa, a Clerk Typist in the State Telecommunications Office, won two red ribbons (2nd place) for her delicious and distinctive blackberry jelly and damson plum jelly. She also entered grape and pear preserves.

Theresa, who enjoys the fun and challenge of competing at the Fair, has entered homemade clothes, dolls, and cakes in past years.

She is also a previous winner at the annual fall event. At the 1983 State Fair, Theresa won a red ribbon for a jar of her homemade grape jelly.

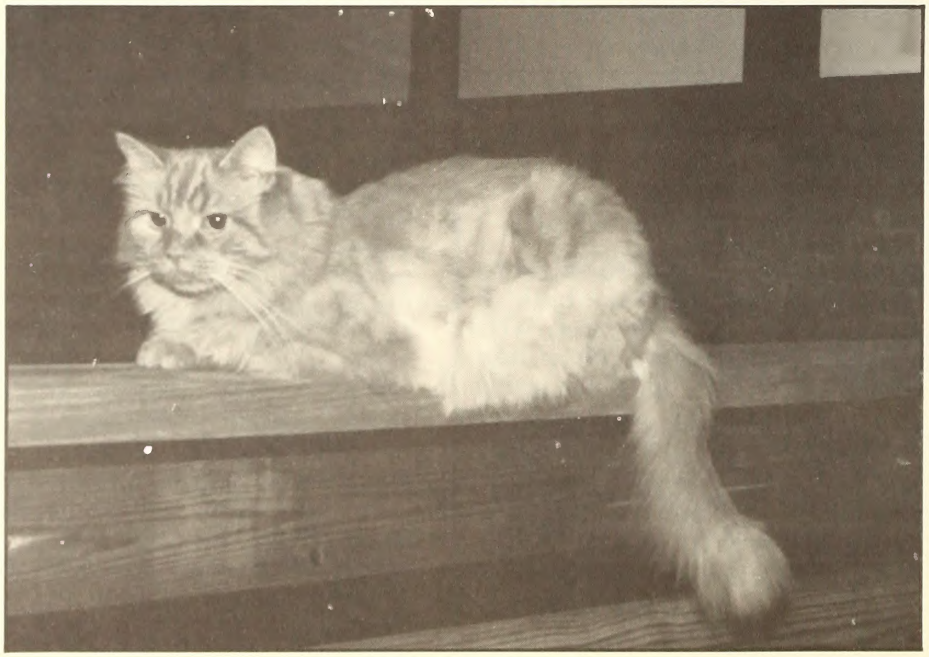
Congratulations, and keep up the good cooking! □

IT'S A GIRL - Congratulations to **Malinda Honeycutt** on the birth of her baby daughter. Spenser, who was born on January 26th at Rex Hospital in Raleigh, tipped the scales at 7 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches long. Malinda is a Switchboard Operator at SIPS. She and her husband Tim also have a three-year-old son named Jordan.

DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS

Members of the State Employees Association of North Carolina (SEANC) can buy discount movie tickets for $3, a savings of at least $1 per ticket. Also, any discount tickets from Fairlane-Litchfield theatres will now be accepted. Fairlane-Litchfield has been purchased by United Artist Communications (UAC), and future movie tickets for Mission Valley and Cary Imperial theatres will be available. Members of the SEANC may buy their discount movie tickets from **Wanda Daughtry** at SIPS (extension 312).

For information on joining the State Employees Association contact **Duane Smith**, District 29 Chairperson, at extension 330. Wanda and Duane both work in SIPS DMV/DOT Systems Development. □



PLAY IT AGAIN SAM - Garfield has nothing on this fancy feline named Sam owned by Charles Long and his family. Sam is a beautiful long-haired mixed breed who wandered into the Long's yard in Raleigh six years ago and decided to move in. One of Sam's favorite places to lounge is inside an empty ice chest. Charles Long is Deputy Director of the State Computer Center.